

WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

VOLUME 25



KENYA

Revised Edition

DALVAN COGER

WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

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Compiler



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This series, which is principally designed for the English speaker, will eventually cover every country (and many of the world's principal regions), each in a separate volume comprising annotated entries on works dealing with its history, geography, economy and politics; and with its people, their culture, customs, religion and social organization. Attention will also be paid to current living conditions – housing, education, newspapers, clothing, etc. – that are all too often ignored in standard bibliographies; and to those particular aspects relevant to individual countries. Each volume seeks to achieve, by use of careful selectivity and critical assessment of the literature, an expression of the country and an appreciation of its nature and national aspirations, to guide the reader towards an understanding of its importance. The keynote of the series is to provide, in a uniform format, an interpretation of each country that will express its culture, its place in the world, and the qualities and background that make it unique. The views expressed in individual volumes, however, are not necessarily those of the publisher.

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Introduction

Kenya is possibly the best known country in black Africa, and the place most Americans and Europeans are likely to visit on their first trip to the continent. This is clearly indicated by the number of visitors to Kenya, which in 1990 was over 800,000. For the researcher, Kenya represents a pleasant contrast to other areas of Africa in many respects. The fine climate, the comparative absence of fevers, and the readily available amenities of the cities have attracted researchers in virtually every discipline. The wildlife of the area, though less visible and numerous than in the days of big-game hunters such as Theodore Roosevelt, is still rich and nowadays is well protected and ready for tourists' cameras rather than their guns.

Of special importance in publicizing Kenya have been the literary works of several women: Baroness Karen Blixen, who wrote under the pseudonym of Isak Dinesen; Elspeth Huxley, whose numerous books on Africa include many on Kenya; Joy Adamson, who wrote of African animals and as an artist sketched Africans; and Beryl Markham, whose remarkable book on her adventurous life in Kenya became a classic four decades after its original publication. When one adds to this galaxy of popular writers the words of the three Leakeys in palaeontology, together with the fascination the world has had with the free life-style of the English upper classes who allegedly set the social pace for life in Kenya between the wars, 'as an exotic home for exotic settlers', the attraction of the area for Europeans is easily explained.

The Kenyans, for their part, have been generally delighted with the success of tourism in bringing in revenue. However, major problems face the country, among them a population explosion fuelled by one of the highest birth rates in the world, and political difficulties involving human rights issues.

Bounded on the east by Somalia and the Indian Ocean, on the south by Tanzania, on the west by Lake Victoria and Uganda and on the north by Sudan and Ethiopia, Kenya has generally enjoyed good relations with its neighbours, although the Somali people in the Northern

Indexes

There follow three separate indexes: authors (personal and corporate); titles; and subjects. Title entries are italicized and refer either to the main titles, or to other works cited in the annotations. The numbers refer to bibliographical entry rather than page numbers. Individual index entries are arranged in alphabetical sequence.

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Map of Kenya

This map shows the more important towns and other features.

